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The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society



A National Society for the Protection
of Natural Scenery, the Preservation
of Landmarks and the Improvement
of Cities & Incorporated 1895

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The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society was founded in ¹⁸⁹⁵1905 by the late Hon. Andrew H. Green, "the Father of Greater New York." It is a national organization of men and women, animated by a love of the beautiful in Art and Nature, and inspired by public spirit and pride in our National Annals, associated for the protection of natural scenery, the preservation of historic landmarks, and the improvement of cities.

The Aims of the Society

It aims to protect beautiful features of the natural landscape from disfigurement, either by physical alterations or by the erection of unsightly signs and structures, and to preserve from destruction remarkable geological formations and organic growths possessing an artistic or scientific value.

It endeavors to save from obliteration names, places and objects identified with local, state and national history; to erect suitable historical memorials where none exist; and to secure the bestowal of significant and appropriate names upon new thoroughfares, bridges, parks, reservoirs and other great municipal works.

It promotes the beautification of cities and villages by the landscape adornment of their open spaces and thoroughfares, the protection of their trees from destruction, and the crea-

tion of public parks where necessary for the health, comfort and pleasure of the people.

It cultivates by free lectures, literature, prize competitions, correspondence and other educational means popular appreciation of the Scenic Beauties of America and public sentiment in favor of their preservation; and it promotes interest in and respect for the History of the Country, its honored names and its visible memorials.

Quasi-Official Status in New York State

In the State of New York, under a special act of whose Legislature the Society is incorporated, the corporation occupies a quasi-official position, being required to report annually to the Legislature, and specially privileged to report at any time, by bill or otherwise, recommendations concerning the objects of the Society.

It is expressly authorized by its Charter to make recommendations to any municipality in the State of New York or its officers concerning improvements in scenic and material conditions.

Owing to its conservative course and the valuable resources of historical and professional information at its command, its opinion is respected by Legislators, one of whom, writing from Albany in 1903, in response to the petition of a local historical society for an appropriation for a monument, said: "I find that before an appropriation for this object can be secured it must have the approval of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society."

Co-operation with Cognate Organizations

The Society's primary object is to benefit the public and it entertains no sentiments of rivalry toward other agencies working for the common good. On the contrary, it recognizes the valuable work done by cognate organizations and stands ready to co-operate with, advise and otherwise aid them in the furtherance of undertakings designed for the general welfare.

Membership and Dues

Any public-spirited person in the United States may become an Annual Member, after application to or invitation by the Board of Trustees, upon election and the payment of annual dues of \$5; a Sustaining Member by the payment of \$25 a year; a Life Member by the payment of \$100 at one time, and a Patron by the donation of personal or real property to the value of \$500. There is no initiation fee.

The Annual Dues of \$5 are payable in advance on January 1. New members joining between January 1 and July 1 pay for the full year upon acceptance of election. New members joining between July 1 and January 1 pay only \$2.50 for the last half of the year.

The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society has been admitted by the National Arts Club of New York to its list of twenty "Privileged Societies." The members of such privileged societies, if they belong also to the National Arts Club, can deduct from their dues to the National Arts Club the dues which they pay to the Privileged Socie-

ties, provided such deductions do not reduce their payments to the National Arts Club below the limit of \$25 for a Resident Member of the Club or below \$15 for a Non-Resident Member. Members of the National Arts Club who have not rebated below these limits can therefore join this Society and enlarge the usefulness of their club membership without increasing their financial responsibilities.

Financial Support

This Society, although performing functions exercised in some European countries by the Government itself, and in cases to be mentioned hereafter actually representing State and local authorities at home, receives no governmental financial support for its general work. Any appropriations of public moneys are applied exclusively to the specific objects for which they are made without any administrative charges. The Society is therefore entirely dependent upon its membership dues and voluntary contributions from public-spirited citizens for the maintenance of its general work.

Andrew H. Green Memorial Fund

On November 12, 1906, Messrs. Oliver B. Green, Martin Green, Andrew H. Green, Wm. O. Green, Samuel M. Green and Nathan W. Green, Misses Mary Pomeroy Green, Lucy M. Green and Julia E. Green and Mrs. Mary R. Green Owen, heirs of the Founder of the Society, gave to the Society the sum of \$10,000 to constitute or be the nucleus of a fund to be

known as the Andrew H. Green Memorial Fund. The principal is to remain permanently invested and the interest applied to the work of the Society. The Trustees earnestly hope that those who appreciate Mr. Green's great public services and sacrifices will be moved to make additions to this fund, or establish other memorial funds, for the maintenance of the Society which he founded and the perpetuation of the work which peculiarly represents his inspirations and ideals.

Lectures and Publications

Every season public meetings are held, to which the members and their friends are invited and at most of which illustrated lectures are delivered by specialists in various branches of art, history and nature work. For six years the in-door meetings have been held in the galleries of the National Arts Club of New York.

The members also receive gratuitously, from time to time, copies of historical brochures of great value. The following have already been sent to them, those marked with a * being now out of print: "The Landmark of Fraunces' Tavern" (New York),* by Mrs. M. F. Peirce; "New York's Historic Sites," by Mr. Albert Ulmann; "St. Paul's Chapel" (New York), by Mr. Charles F. Wingate; "Jamestown, Va.,"* by the Secretary; "Stony Point Battlefield," by Mr. Francis W. Halsey and the Secretary; "The Old Martyrs' Prison"* (late Hall of Records, New York), by the Secretary; "Fort Washington, New

York," * by Mr. Reginald P. Bolton and the Secretary ; " Washington's Headquarters, New York," by Mr. Reginald P. Bolton ; Historic and Pre-Historic Ruins of the Southwest," by Prof. Edgar L. Hewett, of the Smithsonian Institution ; and " McGown's Pass and Vicinity, New York," by the Secretary.

Annual Reports

The Annual Report of the Society is a valuable compendium of information about scenic and historic sites and objects in the United States, and is much sought by universities, public libraries and writers and students. Beginning with the report of 1900, the latter half of each report has been devoted to appendices containing extended papers on the subjects named below. Reports marked with an * are out of print.

First, 1896. Pages 10. No appendices.

Second, 1897. Pages 6. No appendices.

Third, 1898.* Pages 4. No appendices.

Fourth, 1899. Pages 13. No appendices.

Fifth, 1900. Pages 84. Appendices: " Report of Commission Representing the State of New York for the Preservation of the Palisades;" " Report of the Society to the Comptroller of the State on the Lake George Battlefield;" " Report on the Battlefield of Stony Point."

Sixth, 1901.* Pages 97. Appendices: " The Duty of Preserving Places and Objects of Historic Interest and Natural Beauty," by Hon. Andrew H. Green; " The Landmark of Fraunces' Tavern," by Mrs. Melusina Fay

Pierce; "The Historical Significance of the Hudson and Champlain Valleys," by Mr. Francis Whiting Halsey.

Seventh, 1902.* Pages 125. Appendices: "The Preservation and Restoration of Historic Sites and Buildings in Europe," by Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin of Columbia University; "The Scenic Beauties of Fort Washington Battlefield; and the American Revolution and the Free Press," by Hon. Andrew H. Green; "The Battle of Fort Washington," by Hon. Azariah H. Sawyer; "Jamestown: The First Permanent English Settlement in America," by the Secretary.

Eighth, 1903.* Pages 160. Appendices: Address by Gov. Odell at the Dedication of Stony Point Battlefield State Reservation, July 16, 1902; Address by Hon. Andrew H. Green at Fraunces' Tavern, Dec. 4, 1902; Address by Gov. Odell at Fraunces' Tavern, Dec. 4, 1902; "Suggestions for the Appropriate Renaming of Certain Localities, Parks, Avenues and Streets on Washington Heights and at Inwood, Manhattan Island," by Mr. Reginald Pelham Bolton; "Historic and Picturesque China," by Emil S. Fisher.

Ninth, 1904. Pages 222. Appendix: "Biography of Andrew Haswell Green," by the Secretary. This appendix comprises 113 pages.

Tenth, 1905. Pages 247. Appendices: "Antiquities of the Southwest and Their Preservation," by Prof. Edgar L. Hewett of the Smithsonian Institution; "Historic Landmarks of Staten Island," by Mr. Ira K. Morris; "Amerindians of Manhattan Island,"

by Mr. Reginald Pelham Bolton; "Fort Brewerton, N. Y.," by Mr. Francis Whiting Halsey; "Harriet Maxwell Converse, the Indians' Friend," by Dr. George F. Kunz; "The Poster Nuisance," by the Secretary; "Major Robert Rogers, the Famous Scout, Indian Fighter and Partisan Commander," by Francis Whiting Halsey.

Eleventh, 1906. Pages 238. Appendices "The Discovery of the Hudson River," by Gen. James Grant Wilson; "The Pioneers of Steam Navigation," by Mr. Winchester Fitch; "The Physiography of Watkins Glen," by Prof. Ralph S. Tarr of Cornell University; "Some Historical Places in New Jersey," by Mr. T. N. Glover; and "The Palisades of the Hudson River: Their Geological Origin, Attempted Destruction and Rescue," by the Secretary.

Twelfth, 1907. Pages (est.) 250. Appendices: "Walter S. Logan," by Miss Myra B. Martin; "Letchworth Park and Its Donor" (geological, biographical and narrative), by the Secretary; "Educational Possibilities of Letchworth Park," by Dr. Geo. F. Kunz; "Geology of Letchworth Park," by Prof. A. W. Grabau; "Last Indian Council in the Genesee," by Mr. David Gray; "Proceedings at Fort Clinton, McGown's Pass, New York, Nov. 24, 1906;" "Annals of Olden Days of Watkins Glen," by Mr. John Corbett.

Bureau of Information

To meet the demands made upon it by the National scope of its work, and the constant requests of individuals, societies and the press

for information or moral support, the Society maintains a permanent Headquarters in the Tribune Building, New York, and has at its command the services of some of the best qualified historical and landscape authorities in the country.

Members are free to use the Headquarters as a Bureau of Information; and in their efforts for local projects of a public nature find their effectiveness still further increased by their association with an influential body of advisers and co-laborers.

The Society a Public Trustee

The Society is empowered to receive real or personal property in fee, or trust, either by purchase, gift, grant, devise or bequest, by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, by legislative enactment, or otherwise, and to administer it as a public trustee.

It is thus enabled to act not only for individuals but also for state and municipal governments as custodian of public property.

Custodian of Four State Reservations

The Society is by law Custodian of the four New York State Reservations named below: Stony Point Battlefield, comprising 34 acres on the west side of the Hudson river, 35 miles from New York; Watkins Glen, about 105 acres at the head of Seneca Lake; Letchworth Park (Glen Iris), 1,000 acres on the upper Genesee River at Portage Falls; and Fort Brewerton, 1 acre at the foot of Oneida Lake. Further particulars in regard to each of these are given hereafter.

Custodian of Stony Point Battlefield

In 1897 the State of New York purchased 34 acres of the historic Stony Point Battlefield on the Hudson River and committed it to the custody of this Society. With the expenditure of \$38,900 of State money in purchase, improvement and maintenance, and about \$5,000 of the Society's funds, roads and paths have been constructed ; a public pavilion, a keeper's house and museum, summer houses and a steamboat dock built ; a water supply inducted ; the old earthworks marked ; two cannon captured by Anthony Wayne secured ; and in various ways the Reservation has been made one of the most interesting and instructive places of its kind in the United States. In July, 1902, the Reservation was opened to the people with elaborate ceremonies. Last year it was visited by over 14,000 persons.

Lake George Battlefield Reservation

In 1898 and 1900, chiefly through the efforts of this Society, the State purchased about 35 acres at the head of Lake George, made famous by military events during the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars and selected by Cooper as the principal scene of his romantic novel, "The Last of the Mohicans."

Saving the Hudson Palisades

In 1899 Governor Roosevelt authorized a Commission from this Society to act in behalf of the State of New York jointly with a Commission selected by the Governor of New

Jersey in devising a practical plan for the preservation of the Palisades of the Hudson River. The result of these joint deliberations was the legislation creating the Interstate Palisades Park Commission. With the munificent gift of \$122,500 by Mr. J. P. Morgan (Honorary President of this Society), appropriations of \$55,000 by the State of New Jersey and appropriations of \$410,000 by the State of New York, the work of creating the great riparian park is progressing under the administration of the Interstate Commission.

Village Improvement

In 1900, directly through the Society's coöperation, a philanthropic woman beautified the surroundings of the ancient church in Salem, N. Y., and in various ways, less direct, the Society has promoted the improvement of cities and villages.

Naming East River Bridges

In 1901 the Society offered prizes of money, books and medals for the best list of names proposed for the East River bridges; and in March, 1902, the Board of Alderman formally adopted, as the official designations of those structures, names recommended by this Society.

Washington's Headquarters Preserved

In 1901, chiefly through the intercession of this Society and its Women's Auxiliary, the Municipal Assembly passed an ordinance for the creation of a park in the Twelfth Ward of

New York City, including the beautiful colonial mansion built by Roger Morris in 1758 and occupied by Washington as a headquarters during a portion of 1776. The ordinance failed to receive the Mayor's signature on account of a technicality, but the campaign for the preservation of this building was renewed and brought to a successful conclusion. On October 20, 1903, the city took title to the property and on December 28, 1903, it was formally dedicated with public ceremonies.

Fort Washington Monument Erected

In 1901 Mr. James Gordon Bennett gave to the Society the means for erecting on the site of Fort Washington, Manhattan Island, a monument which was dedicated by us with the coöperation of the Sons of the American Revolution with impressive ceremonies, November 16, 1901.

Bennett Memorial Park

In 1903, stimulated by the interest aroused by this Society in his historic property at Fort Washington, Mr. Bennett disclosed his intention to dedicate to the city a large portion of his grounds as a Memorial Park in honor of the memory of his father, the founder of the New York *Herald*.

Oldest Hebrew Cemetery Marked

In 1903 a generous citizen of New York made the Society the medium of the gift of a handsome tablet to mark the remnant of the oldest Hebrew cemetery in the United States,

near Chatham Square, New York city. On April 20, 1903, the tablet was dedicated under the joint auspices of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society and the American Jewish Historical Society.

Fraunces' Tavern

In 1903, almost exclusively through the joint efforts of the Society and its Women's Auxiliary, an ordinance was passed by the Board of Aldermen of the City of New York for the creation of a park at Pearl, Broad and Water Streets, for the preservation of Fraunces' Tavern, in which Washington bade farewell to his officers in 1783. In 1904 the Board of Estimate and Apportionment rescinded the ordinance. On July 30, 1904, the title was acquired by the patriotic Society of the Sons of the Revolution, so that the historic building concerning which our Society developed such a strong public sentiment was finally saved, although not in the manner expected.

Gift in Memory of A. H. Green

In 1904 Mr. Frederick W. Devoe presented through the Society, of which he is a Vice-President, to New York University, of which he is a Trustee, the means for adding 3,000 square feet of floor space to the applied science plant in memory of the late Andrew H. Green, "Father of Greater New York."

Fort Brewerton State Reservation

In 1904 the Legislature of the State of New York passed a bill creating a Reservation for

the preservation of the remains of old Fort Brewerton, at the foot of Oneida Lake, and making this Society custodian. In 1906 the property was acquired and is in our custody.

Andre Monument

In 1905, at the suggestion of the *New York Times*, the Society acquired the site of the execution of Major John Andre of the British Army in Tappan, N. Y., and the monument erected by Cyrus W. Field to mark the spot. Through the generosity of Hon. Clarence Lexow, a tablet will be affixed showing that the property "preserves the identity of a place of historic interest and commemorates the fortitude of Washington and his generals in one of the crises of the American Revolution."

Tree Protection

The disregard shown by traction, electric power and electric light corporations for the people's interests, as illustrated conspicuously in the obliteration of the Boulevard trees in Manhattan Borough and the mutilation of trees along Broadway in Queens Borough, New York, has led the Society to take active steps, in coöperation with other organizations, to prevent further vandalism of this sort. In 1905 it did successful work toward saving the trees along Ocean Avenue, by Prospect Park, from threatened destruction by the Subway.

Hudson Ter-Centenary Celebration

In 1905 the Society was one of the few whose representatives met in the house of the

Hon. Robert B. Roosevelt and took the initial steps which resulted in the appointment by Gov. Higgins and Mayor McClellan of the Commission to celebrate, in 1909, the 300th anniversary of the famous voyage of Henry Hudson up the river which bears his name and the 100th anniversary of the navigation of the river by steam by Robert Fulton. The Society has begun a search among the archives in Holland for new light on the discovery period, and has already reproduced Van Dam's copy of Hudson's contract with the East India Company in 1609.

Custodian of Watkins Glen

In 1906, after six years' unsuccessful effort, the Society was enabled by the heirs of the late Andrew H. Green to secure for the State of New York the beautiful Watkins Glen for a State Reservation. The sum paid was \$46,512, the actual cost of the property to the Green estate, and about half the price asked for it by its former owners. The reservation is in the official custody of the Society.

Custodian of Letchworth Park

In 1906 the Hon. William Pryor Letchworth, of Portage, N. Y., after conference with the Trustees of this Society, deeded to the State of New York, for the benefit of mankind, his magnificent estate of Glen Iris, embracing the three beautiful falls of the Upper Genesee River and 1,000 acres of property upon which he has expended over half a million dollars. The scenery ranks second only to that of Niag-

ara Falls in the State of New York. This gift, crowning a life devoted to philanthropy, was accepted by the Legislature of 1907, and by the terms of the act is to be in the custody of this Society upon the termination of Mr. Letchworth's life tenancy. The Society is coöperating with Mr. Letchworth in carrying out his plans for the further improvement of this Park. A full description of this great benefaction is given in the Twelfth Annual Report of the Society.

Hook Mountain and River Boulevard

In 1906, after four years' effort by this Society, the Legislature of New York passed a bill extending the jurisdiction of the Interstate Palisades Park Commissioners so as to permit the extension of the Palisades Drive to Stony Point Park and preserve the impressive Hook Mountain from destruction by the traprock quarrymen.

Preserving Niagara Falls

In 1906 the Society contributed toward the securing of federal legislation for the preservation of Niagara Falls what Congressman Burton, author of the Burton bill, pronounced "the most complete and elaborate of all the legal arguments on the subject of the jurisdiction of the federal government over Niagara River." The Society not only assisted in securing the passage of the Burton bill, but it also aided in securing the repeal by the New York State Legislature of four charters for the diversion of water from Niagara Falls. In

1902 the late President of the Society, Hon. Andrew H. Green, with the Niagara Commission and this Society behind him, secured the legislation creating the International Waterways Commission (organized in 1905) with a view to an international treaty to prevent the further diversion of water from the Falls.

Johnstown State Reservation Secured

In 1906 the Legislature passed a bill drafted by this Society for the acquisition by the State of the historic blockhouse and colonial residence of Sir William Johnson in Johnstown, N. Y. This famous landmark is now in the custody of the Johnstown Historical Society.

McGown's Pass Monument

In 1906, at the solicitation of this Society, the Department of Parks of the City of New York suitably mounted the two old cannon which had lain neglected for many years on Fort Clinton, at McGown's Pass, in Central Park. Simultaneously and with our coöperation, the City History Club erected a commemorative tablet on the pedestal.

The Giant Trees of California

In 1906 Congress passed a law taking under federal protection the famous Mariposa grove of Giant Sequoias in California. The oldest living things on earth are these giant trees of California, which were saplings when Abraham was a boy. For several years the Society has cultivated public sentiment through the press and by correspondence with members of Con-

gress for the rescue from the lumberman's axe and buzz-saw of these objects, which represent the longest continuous life of any form on the globe.

The Petrified Trees of Arizona

More wonderful, if possible, than the Giant Trees of California are the petrified forests of Arizona, for they reproduce with Inorganic matter the outward form and inner structure or Organic life that flourished geological ages ago, and unite in a marvelous manner the two grand divisions of Nature. In no other region of equal area are there specimens as large, numerous, perfect and beautiful as in Chalcedony Park, Arizona. This Society is working earnestly for the passage of a bill for the creation of a National Park for the protection of these extraordinary objects.

Protecting Prehistoric Remains

In 1906, after six years' agitation of the subject by our Society in coöperation with other organizations, the Congress of the United States passed a law forbidding the destruction of antiquities on United States lands and authorizing the President to acquire lands which have historic value.

Prizes and Medals

In 1906 the Society gave a silver replica of the John Paul Jones Congressional Medal to Gen. Horace Porter, who recovered the body of Commodore Jones for burial in America, and a silver replica of the Greater New York

Medal to Hon. Clarence Lexow for his conspicuous coöperation in scenic and historic matters. In 1903 it gave a commemorative medal to Mrs. Nancy Rose, the keeper of the United States lighthouse at Stony Point, N. Y., for half a century, and in the same year was enabled by private generosity to present medals to the pupils of the Oakhurst, N. J., Grammar School participating in a prize debate. In 1901 it gave a medal and a cash prize for the best and next best names suggested for the East River bridges.

The Poster Nuisance

In 1907 the first fruits of five years' campaigning against the poster nuisance appeared in the contracts for the new subways in New York City, which forbid advertisements in the new underground railroad stations. In 1902 the Society made in the New York Legislature the first definite attempt in the United States to secure legislation to restrain, by taxation, the disfigurement of urban and rural scenery by posters and billboards, and valuable pioneer work has been done in this direction.

Jamestown Island

In 1907, after five years' unsuccessful efforts to persuade Congress to take Jamestown Island, Va., for a federal reservation, the Society assisted in organizing a plan for its rescue by a movement similiar to that by which Mount Vernon was saved. The celebration of the 300th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in the New World

at Jamestown, by an exposition held 35 miles away and in no wise connected with Jamestown Island, emphasizes the need of a popular movement for saving the birthplace of Anglo-Saxon civilization in America from neglect, from debasement to the uses of a cheap amusement resort, and from the danger of obliteration by the erosive action of the James River.

Verifying Sites and Inscriptions

In view of the many errors inadvertently made in the identification of historical sites and the wording of the inscriptions on memorials erected to mark them, and in the absence of any public commission to pass upon the same, the Society has coöperated with city officials and with other organizations in verifying localities and authenticating the inscriptions placed upon their monuments and tablets. Thus far in 1907 it has passed upon one tablet. In 1906 it passed upon four; in 1905, two; in 1904, four, etc.

Watching the Parks

Much of the Society's work is purposely done without publicity. This includes its watchfulness over the City Parks of New York. In one year it brought to New York three of the foremost experts in the country for an examination of the condition of Central Park. During another year it took for examination samples of the so-called "mould" used for "enriching" the park soil, to demonstrate the need for a better administration. And in other ways it has kept a jealous eye

on the people's open-air spaces. Publicly, its voice has been heard in the successful protests against the extension of Brooklyn Bridge terminal into City Hall Park; the reduction of Central Park by the widening of Fifth Avenue; the building of an elevated railway in Bronx Park, etc.

Other Undertakings

Among other activities of the Society may be mentioned the preservation or restoration of the following old historic churches: the First Presbyterian Church of New York, Trinity Church of Fishkill, N. Y.; Bruton Church of Williamsburg, Va., and Old Falls Church, Va; the preservation of the birth-place of the Cincinnati (Verplanck house) at Fishkill, N. Y.; Philips Manor Hall in Yonkers, Hamilton Grange in Manhattan Borough, Billopp House in Richmond Borough and Poe Cottage in Bronx Borough, New York; the creation of a Highlands Reservation of Natural Beauty on the Hudson, the addition of Constitution Island to West Point Reservation, and the creation of Inwood Park on Manhattan Island; the restoration of Fort Putnam at West Point and the establishment of a federal reservation to save the ruins of Ticonderoga and Crown Point; the prevention of the mutilation of the New York City Hall; the reverent care and reinterment of the remains of the forgotten dead exhumed almost weekly in the progress of excavation and building in New York City; the prevention of the desecration of cemeteries by cattle, as at

Stone Arabia, where pigs were permitted to root among the graves; the punishment of vandals who mutilate public monuments; the perpetuation of native American place names and the bestowal of suitable names where none exist; the suitable care of public records; the erection of a memorial to the explorers of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado; the maintenance of natural conditions in the Yosemite Valley; the preservation of the old missions of the Southwest, etc.

Women's Auxiliary

In 1900 a number of public-spirited woman organized the Women's Auxiliary to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, having for its principal objects the preservation of the Jumel Mansion, Fraunces' Tavern and the Poe Cottage in New York. The Auxiliary is a separate and distinct organization from this Society, with a membership and board of government entirely its own. Through its independent efforts the Auxiliary has erected tablets on the blockhouse of 1814, on West 123d Street, New York City; on the blockhouse of 1814 in Central Park, and on the house in Prince Street in which President Monroe died in 1831.

Canadian Scenic and Historic Society

The influence of our example has also extended across the international border, and in 1905 we were officially informed of the organization of the Canadian Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

Commended by the Press

The impressions derived from the work of the Society by intelligent observers of current events and the leaders of American thought may be judged from the few quotations following :

Paul Dana, Esq., when editor of the *New York Sun* : " If there is an organization inspired wholly by public spirit and that of the most enlightened and precious nature, it is the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society."

The *New York Times* : " Of all the societies which we know collectively as the patriotic societies, none has yet undertaken with quite so much disinterested enthusiasm and intelligent guidance the work of marking and preserving places in this country closely identified with historic events. Membership is not founded upon descent, nor have efforts been made in any way to dignify individual members through their ancestors. The Society is animated by a very distinct public spirit."

The *Outlook* : " In stimulating popular appreciation of the value of saving things for their associations, of preserving what is historic and picturesque, and in offering a trusteeship for concentrating effort, whether by gifts or by appeal to State intervention, the Society is quietly but effectively doing a work that reaches in interest far beyond State bounds."

Public Support Urged by the Church

The Right Reverend the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York, Henry

C. Potter: "No citizen of New York can be otherwise than grateful to your Society for your efforts toward the preservation from defacement of the Palisades and other natural features of scenery in the State of New York. You have behind you a much wider and more earnest constituency than as yet you realize."

His Grace the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic See of St. Paul, John Ireland: "I am in most hearty sympathy with you. This Society should have among its members influential men throughout the whole country."

Work Welcomed by the University

Chancellor H. M. MacCracken of New York University: "All American Universities, inasmuch as they are charged with the highest responsibility for the education of American youth, must welcome the existence and activity of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. Scenic and historic places and objects teach patriotism and nourish moral sentiments, while they care also in some measure for the esthetic nature. When once established, these famous places become unsalaried teachers. They never die, never ask to be retired on pensions, and their voices grow stronger and more convincing with increased age. May your Society be prospered in adding to the roll of these immortal teachers."

The Hon. Seth Low, when President of Columbia University: "The object of the Society commends itself to me warmly. It is easy to mar the beauties of Nature, but diffi-

cult to restore them if they have once been injured. Our ancient historic landmarks also ought to be preserved whenever possible. The New World, in the historic sense, is still new; but our national life has already made its sacred places, and it is a true instinct to preserve them, whenever possible, for the inspiration that they hold. I hope that the efforts of your Society may be crowned with conspicuous success."

President Arthur T. Hadley of Yale University: "It is needless for me to say that I am in cordial sympathy with everything which is expressed in your letter. We can all of us work toward the creation of a general public sentiment which will grow better as time goes on and which will aid in dealing with these things—a sentiment to the effect that things which are of permanent interest and value to the Nation must not be made a subject of private money-making."

President Charles W. Elliot of Harvard University: "I am entirely in sympathy with your general object of saving objects of natural beauty and scenes of historical interest. The widespread organization of such societies is the best means I know of for accompanying the objects you have in view."

List of Members

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